

Appl. No. 10/723,384
Reply to Office action of 9/19/05
Page 3

IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1, 3, and 4 are amended.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for using ~~an occupant's~~ a weight detecting system for an occupant sitting on a seat of a vehicle, comprising:
 - obtaining a first output from a first weight detecting unit wherein the first output changes with a change in weight;
 - obtaining a second output from a second weight detecting unit wherein the second output changes inversely at a rate similar to the rate at which the first output changes as weight changes,
 - wherein the first and second weight detecting units are provided under inner and outer edges of a seat of the vehicle, respectively,
 - wherein the first weight detecting unit provides a set of strain resistors on an opposite side of a sensor plate than that of the second weight detecting unit,
 - wherein said first and second weight detecting units ~~having~~ have similar characteristic of change in first and second outputs with respect to change in temperature; and
 - calculating the weight of the occupant based on a value obtained by inverting the output from one of the first and second weight-detecting units and adding the inverted output to the output from the other weight-detecting unit.
2. (Currently amended) ~~An occupant's~~ A weight detecting system for detecting weight of an occupant sitting on a vehicle made to function in accordance with the method of claim 1.

Appl. No. 10/723,384
Reply to Office action of 9/19/05
Page 4

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An occupant's~~ A weight detecting system for detecting weight of an occupant sitting on a seat of a vehicle, comprising:
- a first weight detecting unit having a first sensor plate and a first set of strain resistors, said first sensor plate having a first surface to which each of said first set of strain resistors are fixed, said first sensor plate being adapted to flex under the weight of the occupant, said first weight detecting unit providing an output which changes with a change in weight;
 - a second weight detecting unit having a second sensor plate and second set of strain resistors, said second sensor plate having a second surface to which each of said second set of strain resistors are fixed, said second sensor plate being adapted to flex under the weight of the occupant,
- wherein the first and second weight detecting units are provided under inner and outer edges of a seat of the vehicle, respectively,
- wherein said second surface being on said second sensor plate is provided vertically opposite ~~a similarly located surface on said second sensor plate~~ as said first surface on said first sensor plate,
- wherein said second weight detecting unit ~~providing~~ provides an output which changes inversely at a rate similar to the rate at which the output of said first weight detecting unit changes as weight changes, and
- wherein said first and second weight detecting units ~~having~~ have similar characteristic of change of outputs with respect to change of temperature; and
- means for calculating the weight of the occupant based on a value obtained by inverting the output from one of the first and second weight-detecting units and adding the inverted output to the output from the other weight-detecting unit[[:]],
- wherein said weight characteristic of the occupant's weight detecting system is substantially temperature insensitive.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~occupant's~~ weight detecting system of claim 3 wherein said first and second sensor plates have flexing portions, said first set of strain resistors being located on opposite sides of said flexing portions of said first sensor plate and said

Appl. No. 10/723,384
Reply to Office action of 9/19/05
Page 5

second set of strain resistors being located on opposite sides of said flexing portions of said second sensor plate.

5. (Currently amended) The ~~occupant's~~ weight detecting system of claim 2, wherein the first weight-detecting unit and the second weight-detecting unit use a common sensor plate.

6. (Currently amended) The ~~occupant's~~ weight detecting system of claim 3 including an automobile.

7. (Currently amended) A method for using the ~~occupant's~~ weight detecting system of claim 3, comprising:

obtaining the output from the first weight detecting unit;

obtaining the output from the second weight detecting unit;

and

calculating the weight characteristic from the outputs of said first and second weight detecting units.

8. (Currently amended) The ~~occupant's~~ weight detecting system of claim 3, wherein the first weight-detecting unit and the second weight-detecting unit use a common sensor plate.